

Jim Costa
CA-16 Representative
855 M Street
Suite 940
Fresno, CA 93721

Re: Safari Club International's Donation



Dear Congressman Costa:

The team behind March for Our Lives Fresno would like you to address our concern with a recent donation to your congressional campaign by the Safari Club International.

On April 18th, 2019, Safari Club International donated \$2,000 to your primary re-election campaign (Federal Election Commission). Safari Club International describes itself as a "leader in protecting the freedom to hunt and promoting wildlife conservation worldwide." Our concern is not with its mission, but its intimate connections with the National Rifle Association; for example, the PAC's president, Paul Babaz, was recently nominated to run for the NRA's Board of Directors (AmmoLand). This was announced earlier in the year in January.

In spite of your legislative support for gun control, we believe that your acceptance of the Safari Club International PAC's donation is unsettling. \$2,000 is 40% of the maximum donation allowed in a given election cycle. With a donation that large, March for Our Lives Fresno is deeply concerned that such acceptance would be opening the door for Safari Club International, and their agenda that all too coincidentally aligns with the NRA's, to ensure their self-interest in a district that is afflicted with gun violence. CA-16, from 2014 to 2016, faced 1,463 gun-related incidents, 270 deaths, 710 injuries, eleven separate "mass shootings" where numerous individuals have been killed, and fifty officer involved incidents where the suspect was fatally shot (Gun Violence Archive).

We are reaching out to not only request that Jim Costa for Congress return the \$2,000 donation he received from the gun lobby tied group, but to donate the same amount to any organization of your choice dedicated to ending gun violence.

Sincerely,

March for Our Lives Fresno and youth community members:

Yasmin Mendoza	Sophia Bautista	Grace Miller
Jewel Hurtado	Elizabeth Grubb	Joanne Park
Dayana Mora	Christopher Marquez	Evelyn Gamble
Eduardo Rivera	Lily Marquez	Danai Castelan
Elisha Mendoza	Carlos Moctezuma	Zoe Miller
Leila De Moss	Cameron Forgey	Kathia Osuna